The Logger's B A R K

1916 - Radio Club of Tacoma - 2016

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The President's Corner

Dave W7UUU

2018 – A New Year Upon Us

Happy New Year everyone! I hope you all had a safe, relaxing and fulfilling Holiday Season to conclude your 2017. Ours was uneventful outside of the big move out to five country acres in Port Orchard. It was truly majestic to wake up on December 25th to find the forest around us, and all the sky-scraping trees on our property aglow with an inch of fine fresh new snow and the entire acreage covered in a blanket of white!

So a new year is indeed upon us. We closed out 2017 with the sealing of the W7DK Centennial Time Capsule, now safely installed in a secure location awaiting its big reveal of club history to the future hams of The Radio Club of Tacoma sometime in 2042. One of the great send-offs of the old year and cheering in the new was also of historical significance to many of us in the club – the official recognition by the FCC of the Dr. Clifford J Spike Memorial Museum call sign, W7OS. This means the call sign is now officially under the custody of W7DK. This will allow us to keep the storied call for our museum operations for generations to come. What a great way to welcome the new year, with the first official use of the call sign under its new FCC ULS and QRZ listing being Straight Key Night, December 31st 2017 on New Year's Eve. Plans are already underway for the many exciting radio-related events for the new year: bunny hunts, Field Day, our annual picnic, and a host of other fun things to attend or do. As the guy who also wears the hat for Program Manager, I have a number of top quality and hopefully

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President's Corner cont.

very informative guest speakers and presenters lined up who will entertain and educate our members during upcoming general meetings. Be watching future issues of the Logger's Bark for updates and presentation topics.

Of course, as many have by now heard, the Pierce County Library system will no longer be allowing their spaces to be used after normal business hours, effective April 1, 2018 (and that's no April Fool's joke!). Which means of course that our final general meeting at the Administrative Branch building at 112th and Waller Road East will be March 14th. It's indeed sad to lose what has been our monthly home for many years. But just trust that club management is hard on the trail for a solution and will keep you all posted once alternate arrangements have been made.

So as we begin this new year, I begin my second year as your 50th elected President, having taken office on New Year's Eve a year ago, right after 00:00 UTC of 2017. It's truly been an honor and a privilege to share our Centennial year as president, with outgoing 49th President Gary McAdams, WG7X (in beautiful downtown Lakewood Warrrrshington!). I've learned a lot during my first year, but the job of running your club truly is a team effort of 20 or 30 hard-working, diligent folks who really are the ones who make things happen and get things done. Without the help of so many of you, this club would not be the warm, inviting and vibrant community that it is. I'd like to express my deepest gratitude to all of you who do so much for the RCT.

And of course, if you've not yet taken on a specific role or responsibility and have a desire to do so, let us know! Several committees could use a few extra hands from time to time. Or perhaps you either have a skill in the realm of amateur radio - a knowledge, a talent, or know someone who does, we're always looking for presenters for the monthly general meeting.

Which brings me to my final words for the first President's Corner column of the new year: please welcome Mr. P.J. Hicks N7PH as your new Logger's Bark editor! P.J. has taken over for Rick Patrick KR7W who so admirably served as editor for the past two years. I'm sure P.J. will do a stellar job for us in the coming year. And to that end, one of the things most any member can help is with the very document you're reading now – the Logger's Bark! P.J. will eagerly be seeking articles, photos, fillers, etc. to fill the illustrious pages of our monthly newsletter. If you have anything you think might be appropriate, just let P.J. know what you have.

Let's make 2018 be a terrific new year for us all! Happy New Year, Radio Club of Tacoma.

73
Dave
W7UUU

Editor's Note: Please bear with me as I get up to speed on the Newsletter process. Learning new software, gathering materials and putting it all together will take some time to absorb. The newsletter will be somewhat abbreviated this first issue but I hope to improve both the content and length as we go forward.

PRODUCT REVIEW

Member owned

LNR Precision LD-11 QRP Transceiver

The new LD-11is Digital Direct Conversion, SDR type, build-in CPU (SM32a) DSP radio in which RF signals are directly converted to a digital data via differential and balanced A/D converters. This enables direct sampling with extremely low phase and floor noise.

The DSP is unique and features two independent channels. It also employs a unique differential algorithm within the software which is applied for IQ processing of the channels with phase suppression of the unwanted side-band channel.

Transmitter

Input Power: 11.5-14.8 VDC

Output Power: 5 – 8W

Measurement: SWR and Power:Numbers or Bar indicators on display

Supply Voltage:Real voltage on display

Two Modes CW: Select Straight Key or Paddle (built-in Iambic)

Receiver

Receive sensitivity: 0.15uV w/o preamp

Ant Preamp: +16 dB

Spurious Response Rejection: IMD3 -48Db/ 5W

IMD5 -43dB

Specifications:

Frequency Range: 1800 kHz – 29.990 MHz HF +50-54MHz
160, 80, 60, 40, 30, 20, 17 and 15, 12, (11), 10, & 6 meter all mode operation

Modes: USB, LSB, CW, CW-R, DIGITAL DATA:CAT –USB jack : CW, PSK, RTTY, SSTV – 3.5mm jack AM/FM as well.

Cost: $794.99 plus shipping

[Editor Note:] As mentioned last month, Leslie, K7LCL, recently received one of these as a holiday gift and demonstrated it at a Saturday open house. The nearest competitor radio in the same price performance class might be the Elecraft KX2. Both have their strong points with slightly different features. They are about the same volume but have different form factors. Both suffer from 'tinny and harsh' audio due to the small speaker installed. The KX2 takes an optional internal ATU whereas the LD-11 does not. The LD-11 has a small spectrum display along the bottom edge of the dial display. I found the control layout much less intuitive on the LD-11 than on the KX2. In my opinion the LD-11 falls a bit short of the KX2 but is slightly less expensive.

Services Review

Allpcb— Asian printed circuit board producer

There's been a lot of chatter on the forums recently about AllPCB, a Chinese PCB board manufacturer known for fast turn around and very good prices. And free shipping for qualifying orders.
I had a small circuit that was perfect as a trial run. Keep in mind; A. I had not used the design software, DipTrace, enough to say I was even familiar with it. B. I had never converted a design into a set of Gerber files. And C. I had no clue how to submit those files to a PCB board manufacturer.
My initial submission to AllPCB was incomplete and the drill file had no data in it. Enter Teresa from AllPCB customer service. Carefully and patiently she walked me through the process making sure I had the correct files and data. Once submitted, the boards were etched and shipped in less than three days. Due to the holidays it took a week to receive the boards from China via DHL. My total cost for 10 boards, 32mm x 49mm x 1.6mm, double sided, drilled, masked, and with plated through holes was a whopping USD$5.49. I had forgotten to include the silkscreen file so there was no silkscreen but it is included. NOTE: the last week in Dec. ALLPCB raised their prices. 10 boards, up to 50mm x 50mm are now $10 w/ free shipping; up to 100mm x 100mm are $20 w/ free shipping. Go to their website and play with the cost calculator.
http://www.allpcb.com/

I very highly recommend AllPCB for your prototyping and circuit experimenting needs. I know I will be using them again at every opportunity.

[Editor's Note;]
This is not the only pcb fabrication house that does quality work at great prices especially for the experimenter. It is, however, one that I have personal experience with.

Picnic tables and Signage hand carved and routed by Bob Heselberg, K7MXE. Look for a future article on Bob's sign making methods.

Becoming a RCT Member From a Newbie YL's Perspective

By Leslie Levenson, K7LCL

Dave W7HTJ, Bruce WE7P, and Leslie N7LCL tune her J-Pole

I have always loved radio. As a kid growing up in NJ, I was always listening to the AM and FM talk and music radio stations from NYC. Our family had a shortwave radio that allowed me to hear languages I could identify and others I couldn't. There were Morse code and numbers stations that always struck me as mysterious and tantalizing. One summer I spent a vacation with a friend having fun talking on a CB. Beyond that I really had no idea that I could be more of a participant in radio. I knew about ham radio but it seemed like I would never be able to be a ham – I had neither the science nor the math backgrounds that I thought were required to participate.

Eventually my husband encouraged me to take the Technician class with Steve AD7AB by signing us both up for the class. We both received our General licenses in 2014.

Until recently, I haven't been doing much of anything with my license. The shift came for me when I purchased a Baofeng BF-F8HP HT which allowed me to program the radio on the fly as well as see the frequencies I was listening to (prior to that I had an HT that could only be programmed through a software interface and only had 16 memory slots). After purchasing the Baofeng and starting to have a little success with listening and making contacts here and there, I began going to the club's Saturday open house to see if I could learn more.

Walking into the clubhouse can feel a bit intimidating if you don't know anyone. When I walked in the door this past autumn, I was immediately greeted by a group of members sitting in the front room. I gave them the run down on who I was, that I had been a member previously and had my General license but that I basically knew next to nothing when it came to actually using radios. By the time I left that day I had been convinced that I could actually build my own 2-meter J-pole antenna.

Fortunately, I received lots of help on my first antenna project from Bruce WE7P and other club members. In December I got my first QRP 160-6 rig and was helped onto the air by a bunch of people (including someone who got onto the roof of the garage to turn the 40 meter antenna south so I could check into the noon time net. When I actually had my call sign relayed to net control, I got a little cheer and applause from the fellas gathered around me.

Since that time I have been gifted cable, connectors and other goodies from Bob N7NCP. Nolan K7GBM gave me a 15m antenna he no longer needs. Commander Bob AD7LJ has lent me an antenna and tuner, in addition to making me a coax line and jumper for my QRP rig. A couple Saturdays ago I received help from Rich KR7W, Randy WB4SPB and Chuck AC7QN to make a 20-meter antenna (honestly, they did the work and I just wrote down the numbers and calculations they told me).

Here are some things to know as a new YL (stands for "young lady" – all women are YLs no matter their age) member of the club:

1) There aren't a lot of women. Amateur radio is overwhelmingly male-dominated as is the Tacoma club.

2) Don't be intimidated by fact number 1.

3) People are helpful and encouraging because they are interested in radio and you are too. New members help the club grow so even if you feel you don't have much to give back yet, you are helping by just being a part of the club.

4) Generally, I've heard very little political discussion around the clubhouse which is what I prefer. This may not matter to some people, but I appreciate that I can be in the clubhouse and not get angry about things that have nothing to do with amateur radio (growing up we never talked politics or religion at family dinners since food fights could ensue). However, I am interested in club discussions about FCC legislation and how the ARRL lobbies for amateur radio. I would like to learn more about this.

5) It helps to have specific questions to ask. I have many questions, many of which are *very* basic, but I ask them anyway. I

also have questions that I don't even know yet – there are lots of blank spaces in my knowledge. It's helpful for me to sit around and listen to people talking, even though I haven't got a clue about what they're talking about. Knowledge builds over time and through exposure to a subject. Don't give up.

6) Ask for help.

7) Sometimes people tell jokes where the punchlines are in CW.

8) Club members are generous with their time, gear and patience.

I've really enjoyed finally getting my feet wet in the deep pool that is amateur radio. I hope to continue learning and improving my skills. I also hope that one day I'll finally understand the CW punchlines.

The newly remodeled Radio Club of Tacoma Museum station room.

The newly remodeled W7OS/W7DK Museum Station area and general rebuild and repair bench. Thanks to Rich Patrick, KR7W.

Morel, W6LIX, working on the Old Oak rig, 1996

W7OS Antique Radio Museum News

Our "Doc Spike" W7OS Antique Radio Museum has been with us since 1996. Previous to that time, there was a collection of old gear and a group of RCT members who played with it, even an official RCT "museum curator". But only in 1996 did the call sign W7OS become available from the FCC through the vanity call system.

Since his name and call sign are often mentioned, many members will know about, perhaps even remember, Doctor Clifford J. Spike, a Tacoma dentist and member #28 of the Radio Club of Tacoma. He played many significant roles in RCT over his long lifetime (1900-1991), several times as an officer, also as a historian and archivist, and of course we issue a "Doc Spike Inspirational Award" every year in his memory.

In 1995, anticipating the future availability of the W7OS call sign, RCT members including Rob Lee K7TGU prepared to obtain W7OS as a vanity call. Many people think of W7OS as a "second" call sign for the Radio Club of Tacoma, but in fact a club can have only one call sign. Securing W7OS would require the creation of a separate club, and so the "DOCTOR CLIFFORD J SPIKE MEMORIAL MUSEUM" radio club was formed, with Rob as the license trustee. This club was issued sequential call sign KC7KDM in April 1995, and Rob subsequently applied for and was granted W7OS for the club in November 1996. The first QSO by the W7OS club took place on 11/8/96 with Dr. Shin Onisawa JA1NUT.

Twenty-odd years ago, it was not very complicated to obtain a radio club license. This situation changed in 2011 with the addition to the FCC rules of several requirements for club licensees, including an organizing document, officers, and a minimum of four members.

As with much other administrivia, these new requirements were barely noticed at RCT, and the fact that the W7OS club was, technically, not the same entity as the Radio Club of Tacoma was forgotten as members involved in 1995 became silent keys or simply less active.

Finally, during 2017, the fact that the W7OS club was administratively "behind the curve" rose to the surface once again, and members including Rob K7TGU, Joe K7ZG, Mike W7MWF and Randy WB4SPB undertook to correct this situation. They drafted the necessary documents and submitted them along with a minor update to the W7OS license (a change of address, to the RCT PO box). The change was successful, so the updated club organization has essentially been approved by the FCC's "club station call sign administrator" mechanism.

To enable RCT leadership to easily maintain the W7OS club license into the future, the president and secretary of RCT are automatically the president and secretary of the W7OS club. The RCT Museum Curator and one other active Museum participant are appointed to membership in the W7OS club by the RCT president, fulfilling the requirement for officers and four members. There are no dues, no meetings, no elections, and the W7OS club has no assets of its own except the call sign. The club is an administrative convenience that allows RCT to benefit from the W7OS call sign while complying with today's FCC regulations for club licensees.

The new W7OS club organizing documents were signed on December 7, 2017, and the updated W7OS license was effective on December 19, 2017. Rob Lee K7TGU remains the license custodian.

What are the practical effects of these changes? QSL cards for W7OS have a better chance of winding up the RCT PO box rather than getting sent to Rob; otherwise, pretty much NIL. Still, this diligence should assure that RCT can continue to remember one of its historically most important members just by putting the Museum on the air with CQ CQ DE W7OS.

Have an interesting bit of Radio Club of Tacoma historical trivia? Scratch out a few lines in the ole word processor and send it to me, the Editor of the BARK at hickspj467@comcast.net . You may see your name in print and become famous…

Straight Key Night—aka SKN, 2018— A Clubhouse Big Hit

By Rich KR7W

Each January 1, UTC time, the ARRL sponsors a 24 hour on the air operating event called **Straight Key Night** where ham ops are encouraged to use their communication tools of yesteryear– mechanical Morse Code Keys– aka Straight Keys, Bugs and Cootie Keys to make some radio contacts. Also, each year– the W7OS Museum hosts a get together party that coincides with the first 4 hours of the ARRL on the air event.

This year a record turnout of 51 folks occupied the club-house at one point of the evening and enjoyed camarade-rie and fellowship along with pizza courtesy of the club and deserts provided by many attendees.

Museum Host Randy WB4SPB operates the Eldico + Collins station– having a QSO with club member Bob K7MXE.

The Museum folks attempt to set up two or more old timey vacuum radio sets of yesteryear for members who know Morse Code to make CW QSOs. This year Museum Committee members Randy WB4SPB and Rich KR7W set up three stations: In the Museum Room, the recently re-furbished Eldico SSB100-F transmitter was paired with the Collins 75A4 receiver and the Acme 2x-807 + Heathkit VF -1 was paired with a Hammarlund HQ-120X. In the Jerry HF Room a WRL Globe Champion 300A (on loan from KR7W) was paired with the Military Collins R-388 Receiver. The Eldico station operated on 40 meters and the Globe station on 80 Meters. The Ac-me rig was on and ready to transmit– but didn't get the chance.

10 QSOs were made on 80 meters and 6 QSOs on 40 meters. States contacted were: CA, AR, BC, OR, CO, TX, ID and WA. CW operators that made QSOs and turned in a completion sheet were: AC7QN, AD7AV, K7MLO, K7ZG, W7MWF, KR7W, WB4SPB.

As usual, there were technical difficulties. We got a call on the 2 meter repeater that reported that the Globe Champion transmitter operating on 40 meters sounded, "Crappy, the worst I've heard". We tuned in the Champ's signal on a web based SDR receiver in the library area and listened to it from afar. Yup, it did sound crappy. Randy WB4SPB had the idea to change the Champion's band to 80 meters and the Eldico would swap to 40 meters. This action resulted in a Win-Win outcome. Now both radio-sets worked well.

Whilst Old Timey QSOs were being made upstairs– most attendees socialized in the downstairs kitchen, classroom, and Lou room. A couple of Straight Key Code Oscillators were set up as well as the club's **QLF** key. QLF is a fake Q-signal that states: "It sounds like you are sending with your **L**eft **F**oot". Or asks, "Are you sending with your **L**eft **F**oot?". K7MO, W7MWF and K7ZG (and possibly others) gave the QLF key a try.

Club members enjoying the pizza. Gary WG7X, Bud K7BUD and Rich N7ANF.

After the pizza party was over then a couple of rounds of Morse Code Bingo hosted by Pat WT7N, Sooz (WB4SPB YL) and Nick K7MO. Starbucks gift cards were awarded as prizes.

All in all, everyone seemed to have a great time. If you missed this event– be sure to attend the W7OS Museum's 2019 SKN event.

Above: Morse Code Bingo participants. Pat WT7N (not shown) pulls bingo balls from the cage and Nick K7MO sends the Morse characters.

Above: Paul W7PFU goes back in time to his Novice days and sends some code with the Straight Key. He could have his foot on the QLF key under the table.

L: Ron K7MLO receives the W7OS Museum's Special Courage Endorsement for getting on the air with the Eldico + Collins station.

Below Joe K7ZG operates the Globe Champ station.

Radio Club of Tacoma
General Meeting Minutes
December 13, 2017

Meeting called to order at 1930 PST by President Dave W7UUU at the Pierce County Library Administration Building

Officers and Directors Present

President	Dave Ellison W7UUU
Vice President	Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ
Secretary	Mike Finnie W7MWF
Treasurer	Steve Dightman AF7YD
Board	Red Cranefield WB7EC
Board	Phil Pia K7PIA
Board	Paul Matney W7PFU

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the attendees

Welcome and Self-Introductions

Guests present were Richard KG7RYY, John KI7PXE, Bob K7KRR, and XYL Bea and new member Doug KI7QQK

New Calls PJ Hicks formerly N7PXY announced his new call sign N7PH

Self-introductions were done, and 35 individuals signed the roster.

Health and Welfare

Silent Keys and Illness none reported

Secretary's Report Mike W7MWF reported receipt of the usual stuff: periodicals, utility bills, bank statements. Membership renewals; Liability and Equipment Insurance

Treasurer's Report Steve AF7YD reported all current bills have been paid and all receipts deposited.

Committee / Activity Reports

Membership Mike W7MKE reported current membership stands at 315 until December 31, 2017. Renewals are coming in at a good pace. Updated report of Salmon Run Fund Drive – pledges and donations total $5135.

Training Technician Class January 6/7

Dave N7HT advised he will be teaching a General License upgrade class beginning in January

VE Report No report yet for December session. The next VE Session will be held January 9, 2018

HF Ops Phil K7PIA reported that the new Rotor and Controller has been installed and is in service. K3 is now in the HF Room and ICom 756 Pro-III is in service downstairs in the Lou Room.

Repeater Ops It was reported that there are still some intermittent audio problems on the 147.28 repeater. The repeater committee members are trouble-shooting the issue

IT Report Randy WB4SPB advised that there are no reports of anomalous conditions. Everything is working within normal expected parameters.

Museum Richard KR7W reported that the W7OS Museum is installing new shelving and preparing equipment for Straight Key Night.

Facilities Mgmt There were no reports of anything out of the ordinary with the facilities

Prop Mgmt Red WB7EC gave and update Sales and donations

4th Weds Activity Night - TBD. Maybe 'Get on the Air' or 'Overview of operations of the Elecraft K3'.

Annual Awards Banquet Dave W7UUU gave a report of event and plans for next year. A venue has been reserved but the search for a more suitable venue is ongoing.

New Business

Unfinished Business and Announcements

Straight Key Night The Doc Spike Memorial Museum W7OS will be hosting the annual Straight Key Night event on New Year's 'Eveternoon' from 4 p.m. until 9 p.m. PST. Pizza will be served at 5:30 p.m. Come join the fun.

W7DK Century Club Mike W7MWF restated the purpose of the Century Club and reported subscriptions to date. It was decided by the Board that we extend subscription window until Dec 31, 2017 Additional publicity and promotion via meeting announcements & banquet, website and the Bark will be done.

Time Capsule Adam W2NCC reminded the group that The window for contributing items to be enshrined in the time capsules will close on December 31, 2017.

W7DK at The Fair Mike W7MWF advised that the club will again have an information booth upstairs at the Mike and Key Flea Market in March. He is soliciting volunteers to help supervise and tend the booth.

Program An all-out "Show and Tell" program occurred with multiple members presenting various gadgets, stories, demos, and video clips of interesting items and issues. It was the consensus of those present that

Tuning and Traffic none reported

Door Prize was won by Joe K7ZG

Raffle Prize was won by Randy WB4SPB

Tuning and Traffic none reported

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 1849 PST.

Respectfully submitted
Mike W7MWF Secretary

Radio Club of Tacoma
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2017

Meeting called to order at 1902 PST by President Dave W7UUU.

Officers and Directors Present

President	Dave Ellison W7UUU
Vice President	Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ
Secretary	Mike Finnie W7MWF
Treasurer	Steve Dightman AF7YD
Board	Phil Pia K7PIA
Board	Red Cranefield WB7EC
Board	Bruce Hanson WE7P

Quorum A quorum was present. 12 members signed the attendance roster, a copy of which is filed with these minutes.

Silent Key or Illness? None reported

Approval of Minutes The minutes of the November 1, 2017 Board Meeting were approved as distributed.

Secretary's Report Mike W7MWF reported receipt of the usual Correspondence; bank statements, utility bills, periodicals. Membership Renewals. Equipment insurance updated to include K3.

Treasurer's Report Steve AF7YD reported that all current bills have been paid and receipts to date have been deposited.

Committee / Reports

Election Committee Randy WB4SPB gave a report of the annual elections held November 8, 2017 for 2 year terms beginning January 1, 2018.

Vice President	Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ
Secretary	Mike Finnie W7MWF
Board Member	Bruce Hanson WE7P
Board Member	Paul Matney W7PFU
Board Member	Adam Barbera W2NCC

Membership Mike W7MKE reported that membership stands at 314, with 146 members having renewed. He also produced a final report on the results of the Salmon Run Fund Drive, a copy of which is filed with these minutes.

Training Technician Class No Class Scheduled for December
Next VE Session December 12

Info Tech Randy WB4SPB reported that IT systems are nominal and all performing within normal and acceptable parameters.

HF Operations Phil K7PIA provided an update on the rotor replacement. The new gear has been installed and is functioning as advertised. There is some fine-tuning to be done, including increasing the power supply from 12 volts to 24 volts. Mike W7MKE offered to donate a 24 volt power supply.

Repeater Ops It was reported that the audio output of the 147.280 is still less than satisfactory.

Facilities Mgmt Bruce WE7P advised there are no critical issues with the facilities.

Property Mgmt Bruce WB7EC reported sales revenue for November was $206, and December sales to date are $725. Bruce also submitted a list of items for disposition. It was moved, seconded, and approved to dispose of the surplus equipment after ensuring that none of the club committees have a need for any items.

Museum Randy WB4SPB reported that new shelving is being installed in the museum, and that preparations are underway for Straight Key Night.

Weds Activity Night TBA. Suggestions were to have a 'Get On The Air' night, or a class on the operation of the Elecraft K3 transceiver.

Unfinished Business

AED Mike W7MWF reported that Bob K7MXE is researching and has sent query letters to potential donors.

W7DK Century Club The purpose of the Century Club was revisited and subscriptions to date were announced. The subscription window will be extended until Dec 31, 2017.

New Business

Preservation of W7OS Call Sign The status of the Doctor Clifford J. Spike Memorial Museum (W7OS Club) license W7OS was discussed. A resolution was put forth to (a) memorialize the support of the museum by the Radio Club of Tacoma RCT) and (b) authorized the serving President and Secretary of RCT to concurrently serve as President and Secretary respectively of the W7OS Club. Move, seconded, and passed. A copy of the resolution is filed with these minutes.

Membership Profiles George K7GRS submitted a proposal to undertake a mass-mailing to query members about information to include in their profile. The Board was supportive of this idea and encouraged him to move forward. A copy of George's proposal is filed with these minutes.

Bulk Orders Adam W2NCC presented a proposal to approach vendors about the possibility of establishing a program by which club members could get a discount on equipment if it was purchased as part of a bulk order. The Board encouraged Adam to look into this and see if he can develop a plan.

General Meeting (W7UUU) An all-out "Show and Tell" program!! Participants should try to limit their time to **5 minutes or less** if at all possible to fit in as many as we can. Topics can be anything Amateur Radio related - cool homebrew, interesting QSL, really collectible gizmo or Doo-Dad, short story illustrated with a magazine article, you name it. Just can't involve using a computer/projector (too time consuming to change).

Activity Reports and Discussion Topics

Annual Awards Banquet Dave W7UUU reported that the banquet was an overall success with attendance of 45 souls. Research is underway to locate a new venue for next year. However, as backup, the Tower Lanes facility has been reserved for the first Saturday in December, 2018

Straight Key Night The annual ARRL Straight Key Night hosted by the Doc Spike Museum will be held December 31, 2017 from 4 pm until 9 pm. Pizza will be served at about 5:30 pm. If anyone wants to bring something in to snack on, desserts were suggested.

Announcements

Time Capsule Adam W2NCC needs artifacts/documents to memorialize in the 25 year and 100 year time capsules. Opportunity to submit items will close at the end of the year.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 2015 PST.

Respectfully submitted - Mike W7MWF, RCT Secretary

The Club LINEUP

Club Officers

President: Dave Ellison, W7UUU - w7uuu@w7dk.org

Vice Pres: Mike Mikuchonis, W7XTZ - w7xtz@w7dk.org

Secretary: Mike Finnie, W7MWF - w7mwf@w7dk.org

Treasurer: Steve Dightman, AF7YD - af7yd@w7dk.org

5 Board Members

Bruce Hanson, WE7P - we7p@w7dk.org

Paul Matney, W7PFU - w7pfu@w7dk.org

Adam Barbera, W2NCC - w2ncc@w7dk.org

Red Cranefield, WB7EC - wb7ec@w7dk.org

Phil Pia, K7PIA - k7pia@w7dk.org

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Logger's Bark Staff

Editor: P. J. Hicks, N7PH

Contributors: The members of the Radio Club of Tacoma

Send articles to: hickspj467@comcast.net, PO Box 11188, Tacoma, WA 98111

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Membership Info: FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) is $35 per calendar year. $30 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay $20 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Full-time students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are $20 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for.. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

www.w7dk.org [LINK] - For the latest and most current information on events and activities, visit the Radio Club of Tacoma Website.

Radio Club Repeaters

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5

Crawford Mountain 147.380 + PL=103.5 (E of Olympia @ 1500 ft ASL)

Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

North Tacoma: 145.21 – PL=141.3

Happy New Year and great DX